

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A semiconductor memory device comprising:
word lines formed along a first direction;
bit lines formed along a second direction which
5 intersects the first direction;
memory cells including magneto-resistive elements
and arranged at intersections of the word lines and the
bit lines;
a row decoder which selects at least one of the
10 word lines;
a column decoder which selects at least one of the
bit lines; and
a write circuit which supplies first and second
write currents to a selected word line and selected bit
15 line selected by the row decoder and column decoder
respectively and writes data into a selected memory
cell arranged at the intersection of the selected word
line and the selected bit line, the write circuit
changing the current values of the first and second
20 write currents according to a temperature change.
2. The device according to claim 1, wherein
the write circuit includes first and second MOS
transistors which respectively supply the first and
second write currents to the selected word line and
25 selected bit line; and
a current source circuit which supplies currents
to the first and second MOS transistors by current

mirrors; and

the supply currents have a temperature dependency.

3. The device according to claim 1, wherein the write circuit includes a first MOS transistor group
5 which supplies the first write current to the selected word line; and

a second MOS transistor group which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line, and

the number of MOS transistors which are set in an
10 ON state in the first and second MOS transistor groups decreases with a temperature rise.

4. The device according to claim 3, further comprising a holding circuit which holds information of MOS transistors to be set in the ON state in the first
15 and second MOS transistor groups for respective temperatures; and

a readout circuit which reads out information from the holding circuit according to a temperature to control ON/OFF states of the MOS transistors in the
20 first and second MOS transistor groups.

5. The device according to claim 4, further comprising a write current setting circuit which searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature and

25 wherein the information held in the holding circuit is based on the current values of the first and second write currents obtained in the current setting

circuit.

6. The device according to claim 5, further comprising a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when
5 optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

wherein the current setting circuit includes: a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout
10 data read out from the memory cell; and

a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to
15 current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.

7. The device according to claim 1, further comprising a write current setting circuit which
20 searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature;

a holding circuit which holds information relating to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained by the write current setting circuit
25 together with temperature data; and

a readout circuit which reads out information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature,

wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit.

8. The device according to claim 7, further comprising a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

wherein the current setting circuit includes: a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell; and

a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.

9. The device according to claim 1, wherein the current values of the first and second write currents are different from each other.

10. The device according to claim 1, wherein the write circuit changes a ratio of the current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature.

11. A semiconductor memory device comprising:

word lines formed along a first direction;

bit lines formed along a second direction which intersects the first direction;

memory cells including magneto-resistive elements
5 and arranged at intersections of the word lines and the bit lines;

a row decoder which selects at least one of the word lines;

a column decoder which selects at least one of the
10 bit lines; and

a write circuit which respectively supplies first and second write currents to a selected word line and selected bit line selected by the row decoder and column decoder and writes data into a selected memory
15 cell arranged at the intersection of the selected word line and the selected bit line; the write circuit changing the current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature change and changing one of the first and second write currents
20 according to write data.

12. The device according to claim 11, wherein the write circuit includes first and second MOS transistors which respectively supply the first and second write currents to the selected word line and
25 selected bit line; and

a current source circuit which supplies currents to the first and second MOS transistors by current

mirror; and

the supply currents have a temperature dependency.

13. The device according to claim 11, wherein the write circuit includes a first MOS transistor group
5 which supplies the first write current to the selected word line; and

a second MOS transistor group which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line, and

the number of MOS transistors which are set in an
10 ON state in the first and second MOS transistor groups decreases with a temperature rise.

14. The device according to claim 13, further comprising a holding circuit which holds information of MOS transistors to be set in the ON state in the first
15 and second MOS transistor groups for respective temperatures; and

a readout circuit which reads out information from the holding circuit according to a temperature to control ON/OFF states of the MOS transistors in the
20 first and second MOS transistor groups.

15. The device according to claim 13, wherein the write circuit includes a first MOS transistor which supplies the first write current to the selected word line;

25 a second MOS transistor which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from one end thereof;

a third MOS transistor which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from the other end thereof; and

5 a current source circuit which supplies currents to the first to third MOS transistors by current mirrors, and

the supply currents have a temperature dependency.

16. The device according to claim 15, further comprising a write current setting circuit which
10 searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature;

a holding circuit which holds information relating to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained in the current setting circuit
15 together with temperature data; and

a readout circuit which reads out the information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature, and

20 wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit.

17. The device according to claim 16, further comprising a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when
25 optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

wherein the current setting circuit includes: a

comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell; and

5 a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit
10 becomes maximum.

18. The device according to claim 11, wherein the write circuit includes a first MOS transistor which supplies the first write current to the selected word line;

15 a second MOS transistor which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from one end thereof; and

a third MOS transistor which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from the other
20 end thereof, and

the second and third MOS transistors change supply currents according to write data.

19. The device according to claim 18, which further comprising a write current setting circuit
25 which searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature;

a holding circuit which holds information relating

to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained by the write current setting circuit together with temperature data; and

5 a readout circuit which reads out information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature, and wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit.

20. The device according to claim 19, further comprising a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

15 wherein the current setting circuit includes a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell; and

20 a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.

25 21. The device according to claim 11, wherein the write circuit includes a first MOS transistor group which supplies the first write current to the selected

word line;

a second MOS transistor group which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from one end thereof; and

5 a third MOS transistor group which supplies the second write current to the selected bit line from the other end thereof, and

the number of MOS transistors which are set in an ON state in the first to third MOS transistors
10 decreases with a temperature rise.

22. The device according to claim 21, further comprising a holding circuit which holds information of MOS transistors to be set in the ON state in the first to third MOS transistor groups for respective tempera-
15 tures; and

a readout circuit which reads out information from the holding circuit according to a temperature to control ON/OFF states of the MOS transistors in the first to third MOS transistor groups.

20 23. The device according to claim 21, further comprising a write current setting circuit which searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature; and

a holding circuit which holds information relating
25 to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained by the write current setting circuit together with temperature data, and a readout circuit

which reads out information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature,

wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit.

24. The device according to claim 23, further comprising a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

wherein the current setting circuit includes a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell and

a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.

25. The device according to claim 11, wherein the current values of the first and second write currents are different from each other.

26. The device according to claim 11, wherein the write circuit changes a ratio of the current values of the first and second write currents according to a

temperature.

27. A control method of a semiconductor memory device comprising:

5 holding data relating to optimum values of first
and second write currents respectively supplied to one
of a plurality of word lines formed along a first
direction and one of a plurality of bit lines formed
along a second direction which intersects the first
direction to write data into one of memory cells which
10 includes magneto-resistive elements and are respec-
tively arranged at intersections of the word lines and
the bit lines in a holding section according to
temperatures;

 detecting a temperature at a write time;
15 reading out data corresponding to the detected
temperature from the holding section; and

 writing data into the memory cell by causing a
word line current source and bit line current source to
respectively supply first and second write currents of
20 optimum values to the word line and bit line according
to the data read out from the holding section.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the
holding the data relating to the optimum values of the
first and second write currents in the holding section
25 according to temperatures includes:

 writing a data pattern generated from a data
pattern generator into a memory cell array by use of a

plurality of the first and second write currents;

verifying data written into the memory cell and
holding current values of the first and second write
currents obtained when the number of memory cells into
5 which data is correctly written becomes maximum in a
first register together with temperature data; and

changing a temperature and returning a process to
the writing the data pattern into the memory cell
array.

10 29. The method according to claim 28, further
comprising initializing values of the first register
and a second register before writing the data pattern
into the memory cell array,

wherein the word line current source and bit line
15 current source generate the first and second write
currents based on the value held in the first register
in the writing the data pattern into the memory cell
array and

the verifying data written in the memory cell and
20 holding the current values in the first register
includes:

reading out data from a memory cell included in
the memory cell array;

25 comparing data read out from the memory cell with
the data pattern;

causing a counter to count up a count number
thereof when data read out from the memory cell

coincides with the data pattern;

comparing the count number of the counter with the
value held in the second register after the comparing
data and causing the counter to count up for a preset
5 number of memory cells included in the memory cell
array are terminated;

rewriting the value of the second register into
the count number of the counter and rewriting the value
of the first register to a value corresponding to the
10 current values of the first and second write currents
used for the writing of the data pattern when the count
number of the counter is larger than the value held in
the second register; and

changing the current values of the first and
15 second write currents and returning a process to the
writing the data pattern.

30. A memory card comprising at least one
semiconductor memory cell block,

the semiconductor memory cell block including:
20 word lines formed along a first direction;
bit lines formed along a second direction which
intersects the first direction;

memory cells including magneto-resistive elements
and arranged at intersections of the word lines and the
25 bit lines;

a row decoder which selects at least one of the
word lines;

a column decoder which selects at least one of the bit lines; and

5 a write circuit which supplies first and second write currents to a selected word line and selected bit line selected by the row decoder and column decoder respectively and writes data into a selected memory cell arranged at the intersection of the selected word line and the selected bit line, the write circuit changing the current values of the first and second
10 write currents according to a temperature change.

31. The card according to claim 30, further comprising a write current setting circuit which searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature;

15 a holding circuit which holds information relating to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained by the write current setting circuit together with temperature data;

20 a readout circuit which reads out information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature; and

a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature,

25 wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit,

the current setting circuit includes a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell; and

5 a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents
10 obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.

32. A memory card comprising at least one semiconductor memory cell block,

the semiconductor memory cell block including:
15 word lines formed along a first direction;
 bit lines formed along a second direction which intersects the first direction;

memory cells including magneto-resistive elements and arranged at intersections of the word lines and the
20 bit lines;

a row decoder which selects at least one of the word lines;

a column decoder which selects at least one of the bit lines; and

25 a write circuit which respectively supplies first and second write currents to a selected word line and selected bit line selected by the row decoder and

column decoder and writes data into a selected memory cell arranged at the intersection of the selected word line and the selected bit line; the write circuit changing the current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature change and changing one of the first and second write currents according to write data.

33. The card according to claim 32, further comprising a write current setting circuit which searches for optimum current values of the first and second write currents according to a temperature;

a holding circuit which holds information relating to the current values of the first and second write currents obtained in the current setting circuit together with temperature data;

a readout circuit which reads out the information held in the holding circuit according to a temperature; and

a data pattern generator which generates a data pattern to be written into the memory cell when optimum current values of the first and second write currents are searched for according to the temperature;

wherein the write circuit supplies the first and second write currents based on the information read out from the holding circuit by the readout circuit,

the current setting circuit includes a comparator circuit which compares the data pattern generated from

the data pattern generator with readout data read out from the memory cell; and

a count circuit which counts the number of times which the result of comparison by the comparator.

5 circuit has indicated coincidence, and

the holding circuit holds information relating to current values of the first and second write currents obtained when the count number in the count circuit becomes maximum.